



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE

August 17, 1998

S. 2276

El Camino Real de los Tejas National Historic Trail Act of 1998

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
on July 29, 1998*

CBO estimates that implementing this legislation would cost less than \$500,000 annually, assuming the availability of appropriated funds. The bill would not affect direct spending or receipts, so pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply. S. 2276 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

S. 2276 would amend the National Trails System Act to designate El Camino Real de los Tejas (the Royal Road to the Tejas) as a National Historic Trail. The segment of the El Camino Real considered for designation is a combination of routes totaling 2,580 miles in length from near Laredo, Texas, to Natchitoches, Louisiana. The bill would provide for trail administration by the Department of the Interior (DOI) and would permit the department to coordinate with U.S. and Mexican public and private entities on various trail preservation and enhancement projects.

Upon enactment of the bill the National Park Service (NPS) would prepare a comprehensive management plan, which would cost about \$300,000, mostly in fiscal years 1999 and 2000. Based on information provided by the NPS, CBO estimates that DOI would incur trail administration and preservation costs of about \$100,000 in 1999, increasing to about \$400,000 annually by 2001. In total, assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts, CBO estimates that implementing S. 2276 would cost about \$250,000 in fiscal year 1999 and between \$350,000 and \$450,000 annually thereafter.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Mark Grabowicz. This estimate was approved by Paul N. Van de Water, Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.